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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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An intraluminal medical device comprising:

a substantially tubular member having open ends, and a first diameter for insertion into a lumen of a vessel and a second diameter for anchoring in the lumen of the vessel; and

at least one marker connected to at least one end of the substantially tubular member, the at least one marker comprising a marker housing and a marker insert having a radius of curvature equal to the radius of curvature of the substantially tubular marker.

- 2. The intraluminal medical device according to Claim 1, wherein the intraluminal medical device comprises a superelastic alloy.
- 3. The intraluminal medical device according to Claim 2, wherein the superelastic alloy comprises from about 50.0 percent to about 60 percent Nickel and the remainder Titanium.
- 4. The intraluminal medical device according to Claim 1, wherein the marker housing comprises the same material as the intraluminal medical device and is integral thereto, thereby forming a unitary structure.
- 5. The intraluminal medical device according to Claim 4, wherein the marker insert comprises a material having a radiopacity higher than that of the material comprising the intraluminal medical device.
- 6. The intraluminal medical device according to Claim 5, wherein the marker insert comprises Tantalum.
- 7. The intraluminal medical device according to Claim 6, wherein the marker insert is secured in the marker housing by frictional, locking engagement.

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- 8. The intraluminal medical device according to claim 7, wherein the marker insert is secured in the marker housing by a protruding ridge.
- 9. \ An intraluminal medical device comprising:

a thin-walled, substantially tubular member having open ends, and a first diameter for insertion into a lumen of a vessel and a second diameter for anchoring in the lumen of the vessel, the thin-walled tubular member comprising a superelastic alloy; and

at least one marker connected to at least one end of the thinwalled, substantially tubular member, the at least one marker comprising a marker housing and a marker insert having a radius of curvature equal to the radius of curvature of the substantially tubular marker.

- 10. The intraluminal medical device according to Claim 9, wherein the marker housing comprises the same material as the intraluminal medical device and is integral thereto, thereby forming a unitary structure.
- 11. The intraluminal medical device according to Claim 10, wherein the marker housing defines a substantially elliptical open having a predetermined curvature.
- 12. The intraluminal medical device according to Claim 11, wherein the marker insert comprises a material having a radiopacity higher than that of the material comprising the intraluminal medical device.
- 13. The intraluminal medical device according to Claim 12, wherein the marker insert comprises Tantalum.
- 14. The intraluminal medical device according to Claim 13, wherein the marker insert has a curvature equal to that of the curvature of the opening in the marker housing.

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the marker insert has a diameter of 0.02 inches.

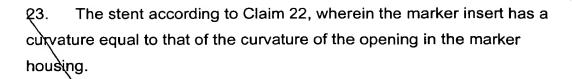
- 16. The intraluminal medical device according to Claim 15, wherein the marker insert is secured in the marker housing by frictional, locking engagement.
- 17. The intraluminal medical device according to claim 16, wherein the marker insert is secured in the marker housing by a protruding ridge.

18. A stent comprising:

a thin-walled, substantially tubular member having open ends, and a first diameter for insertion into a lumen of a vessel and a second diameter for anchoring in the lumen of the vessel, the thin-walled tubular member comprising a superelastic alloy; and

at least one marker connected to at least one end of the thinwalled, substantially tubular member, the at least one marker comprising a marker housing and a marker insert having a radius of curvature equal to the radius of curvature of the substantially tubular marker.

- 19. The stent according to Claim 18, wherein the marker housing comprises the same material as the stent and is integral thereto, thereby forming a unitary structure.
- 20. The stent according to Claim 19, wherein the marker housing defines a substantially elliptical open having a predetermined curvature.
- 21. The stent according to Claim 20, wherein the marker insert comprises a material having a radiopacity higher than that of the material comprising the stent.
- 22. The stent according to Claim 21, wherein the marker insert comprises Tantalum.



24. The stent according to Claim 23, wherein the marker insert has a diameter of 0.02 inches.

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25. The stent according to Claim 24, wherein the marker insert is secured in the marker housing by frictional, locking engagement.

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26. The intraluminal medical device according to claim 25, wherein the marker insert is secured in the marker housing by a protruding ridge.

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27. The stent according to Claim 18, further comprising six markers attached to each end of the thin walled, substantially tubular member.

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28. A method of manufacturing an intraluminal medical device having improved radiopacity comprising:

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forming a substantially tubular lattice from a tubular member having first and second ends, a first diameter for insertion into a lumen of a vessel and a second diameter for anchoring in the lumen of the vessel, the substantially tubular lattice being formed from a superelastic alloy;

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forming at least one marker housing from the tubular member that is integral with the substantially tubular lattice, the marker housing defining a substantially elliptical opening and having a predefined radius of curvature;

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forming a marker insert having the same radius of curvature as the substantially elliptical opening; and

seating the marker insert into the substantially elliptical opening.

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- 29. The method of manufacturing an intraluminal medical device according to Claim 28, wherein the substantially elliptical opening has an inside and outside diameter.
- 30. The method of manufacturing an intraluminal medical device according to Claim 29, wherein the step of forming a marker insert comprises punching the marker insert from annealed ribbon stock having a high radiopacity, the marker insert having a diameter between the inside and outside diameter of the substantially elliptical opening.
- 31. The method of manufacturing an intraluminal medical device according to Claim 30, wherein the step of seating the marker insert into the substantially elliptical opening comprises:

loading the punched marker insert into the hole of the marker housing; and

coining the punched marker insert with a predefined pressure utilizing a coining tool such that the punched marker insert is forced below the surface of the marker housing and the marker housing deforms to form a protruding ridge.